


REMARKS

Entry of the above amendments, and early and favorable consideration on the merits are respectfully requested. Upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment, claims 41-69 will be pending.

If any unresolved issues remain, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney at (301) 601-7252 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

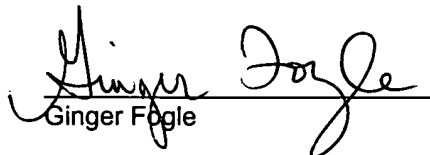
Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia, 22313-1450 on: July 2, 2003.



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